



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

A. G. Kawamura, Secretary

NOTE TO EDITORS:

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

California's Entomologist Responds to UC Santa Cruz Report on the Light Brown Apple Moth

***The Salinas Californian*: "State Swats Moth Finding" (3.15.08)**

"Kevin Hoffman, the state's primary entomologist, said the researchers' report left out important information and failed to take into account differences between California and New Zealand."

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"Entomologist Hoffman, however, said what works halfway around the world won't necessarily succeed here. '(The paper) oversimplifies the case, and the authors omit key points regarding the damage from the introduction of non-native natural enemies,' he said in a statement released by the CDFA."

Full article: <http://www.thecalifornian.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080315/NEWS01/803150319/1002>

***Monterey County Herald*: "State bug expert blasts report on light brown apple moth" (3.15.08)**

"Max Suckling, science leader for New Zealand's horticultural research agency, said the report arrived at "erroneous conclusions that can and should be challenged" because the authors didn't incorporate suggested changes to the report that were recommended by his agency."

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"The report's shortcomings, in Hoffman's view, include:

- Overlooking financial and environmental costs of New Zealand's pest management program.
- Giving short shrift to possible pitfalls of introducing non-native species to prey on the light brown apple moth.

It is unlikely the moth's natural enemies would be allowed in the United States, Hoffman said.

- Ignoring the potential impact if the light brown apple moth becomes established in other parts of California, other states or Mexico and Canada.

"The authors display a lack of understanding about the purpose of classifying (the moth) as a regulated pest and the necessity of implementing actions to restrict its movement," Hoffman wrote."

Full article: http://www.montereyherald.com/news/ci_8583108

***Contra Costa Times*: "Study cites alternative to spraying" (3.15.08)**

"The state also said the report ignored corrections suggested by the New Zealand government HortResearch agency."





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“Also, he said the goal of the state and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's plan is to eradicate the moth, not live with it as New Zealand does. ‘There is value [in their report] if at some point the CDFA and USDA decide not to eradicate,’ Hoffman said.”

Full article: http://www.contracostatimes.com/environment/ci_8584024

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Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

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